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MISCELLANEOUS

DAVIS, JOSEPH STANCLIFFE. *Essays in the Early History of American Corporations.* 2 volumes. Pp. xiii, 547; x, 419. Price, \$2.50 each. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1917.

Four essays comprise these two volumes, each essay being divided into several chapters. Volume I discusses Corporations in the American Colonies; William Duer; Entrepreneur, 1747-99; and The Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures, the first New Jersey business corporation.

In Volume II, which deals with eighteenth century business corporations in the United States, there are chapters upon Banking Companies; Corporations for Improving Inland Navigation; Toll-Bridge and Turnpike Companies; and Insurance, Water Supply, Manufacturing and Miscellaneous Corporations. The appendices contain a list of American charters granted up to the end of the eighteenth century. There is a full bibliography, topically classified. The author has done his work well. Although the preface states that "a well-rounded treatment" of the history of American corporations is impossible because of "deficiencies in the available data," these volumes make a distinct and welcome contribution to American economic history; they will be helpful to both historian and economist.

E. R. J.

VICTOR, E. A. (Ed. by). *Canada's Future: What She Offers after the War.* Pp. xv, 320. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1916.

Fifty-two articles by eminent Canadians and an introduction by the editor comprise this book. The majority of the articles deal with the resources and possibilities of Canada. The grain industry, fisheries, the peat bogs, mines and mining, livestock, railway systems, manufactures, insurance, banking, dairying, lumbering and agriculture are taken up. In another group might be named the educational facilities, the work of the church, Canadian clubs, immigration, sports and pleasure, conservation of resources, art, literature, chemistry and the soil, etc. The articles in these groups are in the main carefully written by experts.

A number of articles by leading politicians, with a few exceptions, do not treat their topics with care. The Dominion Labor Minister discusses Labor Conditions after the War (p. 48) in a page and a half of platitudes. Alberta's Future (p. 248) is dealt with by the Premier in two pages of florid oratory. Many of the articles are too exclusively descriptive and avoid too carefully the problem of constructive proposals for the future; for example, those dealing with the church and education.

The book should prove helpful to those who look to Canada as a field for investment or settlement.

P. R. H.